Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

ARA-16 /169 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:BCROGERS:SM 09/19/73 APPROVED BY AF:DDNEWSOM AF/E:WBCOOTE

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R 192246Z SEP 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO, US, ET

SUBJECT: U.S.-SOMALI RELATIONS

1. IN MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM, AMBASSADOR ADDOU SAID THAT PRESIDENT SIAD HAD WRITTEN THAT HE WAS PLEASED AND IMPRESSED WITH CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM'S TRIP. ON HIS PART, BINGHAM HAD TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT HE GREATLY ENJOYED "KING-SIZED WELCOME" GIVEN HIM IN SOMALIA. ADDOU HAS ALSO DISCUSSED WITH SENATOR HUMPHREY AND CONGRESSMEN DIGGS AND JOHN ANDERSON POSSIBILITY OF SOMALI VISITS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THEIR ATTENDANCE AT AFRICAN-AMERICAN DIALOGUES IN ADDIS IN EARLY DECEMBER. (COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ADDOU APPARENTLY BELIEVES ALL THREE ARE WILLING TO INCLUDE SOMALIA IN ITINERARY, AFRICAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE, WHICH IS ARRANGING DIALOGUES, HAS TOLD AMBASSADOR KIRK THAT LEGISLATORS' STAFFS IN EACH CASE STATE THEY HAVE MADE NO PLANS TO TRAVEL TO SOMALIA. CONFIDENTIAL

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ADDOU IS PROCEEDING TO SEEK WRITTEN INVITATIONS FROM

GENERAL SIAD TO EACH LEGISLATOR TO BE OFFICIAL GUEST OF GSDR DURING VISIT. END COMMENT.)

- 2. ADDOU THEN TRANSLATED SIAD LETTER TO HIM WHICH AMBASSADOR NOTED CONTAINED IMPORTANT SHIFTS IN GSDR POLICY TOWARDS UNITED STATES. WORDING IN LETTER INDICATED THAT POLICY DECISIONS HAD BEEN APPROVED BY SRC, NOT JUST SIAD. SIAD "WELCOMED" FUTURE EXCHANGE VISITS BY HIGH-RANKING U.S. AND SOMALI OFFICIALS. HE AGREED TO U.S. NAVAL VISITS TO SOMALI PORTS AND "SPECIAL TREATMENT" OF AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AND STAFF SO THEY COULD DEVELOP INFORMAL AND SOCIAL RELATIONS AMONG INDIVIDUAL SOMALIS. (ADDOU COMMENTED THAT SUCH TREATMENT WOULD OF COURSE APPLY TO ALL FOREIGN MISSIONS, SINCE IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE TO SINGLE OUT AMERICANS.) LETTER ALSO INVITED NEWSOM TO VISIT MOGADISCIO "AT ANY APPROPRIATE TIME." ASSISTANT SECRETARY WELCOMED NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN SOMALI POLICY AND ACCEPTED INVITATION IN PRINCIPLE BUT WITH CAVEAT HE NOT ABLE SET SPECIFIC DATE AT THIS TIME.
- 3. ADDOU APPEARED MUCH MORE RELAXED CONCERNING SOMALIETHIOPIAN DISPUTE. HE HAD RECEIVED REPORT THAT HIM AND SIAD HAD MET AT ALGIERS, BUT HAD MADE NO PROGRESS. IMPORTANT FACT, HE STATED, WAS OAU COMMITTEE STILL WORKING TO SOLVE DISPUTE. IN CONSEQUENCE, HIS EARLIER FEARS OF WAR HAVE SUBSIDED.
- 4. THERE WAS SHORT DISCUSSION ALONG FAMILIAR LINES OF ADDOU'S HOPE FOR RESUMPTION OF U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA. NEWSOM POINTED OUT THAT WHILE CONGRESS HAD NOT YET COMPLETED ACTION ON AID AUTHORIZATION LEGISLATION, IT LIKELY THAT PROVISION PROHIBITING AID TO COUNTRIES WHOSE FLAGSHIPS TRADE WITH CUBA WOULD CONTINUE TO BE A PROBLEM. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 19 SEP 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE186830

Document Number: 1973STATE186830 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: BCROGERS:SM

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS NEWSOM

Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730923/aaaaaqsh.tel Line Count: 96

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE

Office: ORIGIN AF Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a

Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: collinp0

Review Content Flags: Review Date: 09 JAN 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <01 MAR 2002 by collinp0>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: U.S.-SOMALI RELATIONS TAGS: PFOR, SO, US, ET To: MOGADISCIO

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005